Prior to and following transplant, children receive care at Alex’s Place—a 3,200+ square foot pediatric hematology/oncology clinic at UHealth’s Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Alex’s Place was created with children and families in mind. More than simply a treatment site for children with cancer and blood disorders, it is a space designed to empower our patients and support their families. Each chemotherapy bay is equipped with its own flat screen monitor to watch videos or to use as a computer. The ceilings in each exam room include digital art that rotates 360 degrees. At the end of each day, the common areas of Alex’s Place are designed to be interactive and kid-friendly.

Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit

Conditioning for the transplant, stem cell infusion and immediate post-transplant inpatient care will be provided in a brand new Holtz Children’s Hospital Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit, opening in the fall of 2011. This state-of-the-art, seven-bed unit is designed for optimum family-centered care with lively digital art incorporated into patient rooms and shared spaces. In addition, there will be a playroom dedicated to our pediatric bone marrow transplant patients and a lounge where doctors and parents can have quiet conversations.

Mafi’s Story

Diagnosis:
Mafi was diagnosed in infancy with Diamond-Blackfan anemia; a congenital condition characterized by failure of the bone marrow to produce red blood cells.

Treatment:
Mafi was treated with steroids, but these did not work and her anemia worsened. As she entered early puberty, Dr. Andreansky believed she might be a candidate for bone marrow transplantation. Unfortunately, there was no perfect match. They were referred to Miami, where they continued to search for a donor. The search was even more difficult in South America. They eventually found an almost perfect match, which was accepted for Mafi’s blood and marrow transplantation. Dr. Andreansky and Mafi were treated with a disorder called haploidentical, which is used when there is not a perfect match. The transplant was conducted by removing most of the cells responsible for graft versus host disease. Unfortunately, Mafi’s body rejected the transplant. Dr. Andreansky did not give up but searched again, using transplants from unrelated donors from the same donor. After a second round of chemotherapy, Mafi was scheduled for a second transplant, which finally took on November 21, 2011. Dr. Andreansky did not give up and tried a third time, and Mafi is now considered cured.

“I have a normal life now. I can run again... This was the hospital of my dreams. I played a lot. And the doctors are very good. I love them very much. They’re like my family.”

– Mafi

Contact Information

For additional information or to consult with a member of our blood and marrow transplant team, please call 305-495-7359 or 205-585-4688, send a fax to 786-387-3968 or email our transplant team at mandreansky@med.miami.edu or swillums@med.miami.edu.

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center/University of Miami Hospital and Clinics
1675 N.W. 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136
305-585-7359

Holtz Children’s Hospital
1311 N.W. 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136
305-842-7160

pediatrics.med.miami.edu
The University of Miami Health System's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Holtz Children's Hospital has a long history of providing patients with innovative treatments. We offer transplantation to infants, children, and adolescents with leukemia, lymphoma, bone marrow failure, blood disorders, metabolic diseases, and congenital clinic deficiencies. Our transplant team is part of a comprehensive pediatric hematology-oncology program led by Julio Barredo, M.D., an internationally recognized expert in the field of childhood leukemias. The transplant team incorporates a multidisciplinary approach to the care of patients who require transplantation. Internal medicine specialists and adult transplant physicians provide state-of-the-art medical care to transplant patients.

**The transplant team performs allogeneic related and unrelated bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell transplants, and mismatched and haploidentical donor transplants. The transplant team performs allogeneic related and unrelated bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell transplants.**

**The transplant team provides comprehensive post transplant care by transplant specialist, disease specific specialist and psychologist in the long-term follow-up clinic.**

**We provide superior care to our patients in a compassionate, family-centered manner. Patients are assured of receiving the most advanced therapies, including children to reach their future potential.**

**International Services**

- **Urgent Consultations**
  - Multilingual staff
  - Hotel and rental car discounts
  - Complimentary valet parking
  - Logistic services:
    - Concierge services
    - Financial clearance for self-pay and insured patients
    - Coordination of care

- **International patient program**
  - Helps facilitate travel arrangements
  - Provides ongoing follow-up care
  - Offers special guidance for international patients and their families

**Faculty**

**Dr. Julio Barredo**

- **Recent Contributions**
  - Early phase clinical trials in acute lymphoblastic leukemia
  - Molecular mechanisms of action of classical and novel antifolates
  - Related oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes
  - Biochemical and genetic and cellular mechanisms of novel molecular targets for cancer therapy
  - The University of Miami Health System's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program is led by highly trained and internationally recognized experts.**

**Specializations**

- **Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship**
  - Multidisciplinary team of pediatric specialists, nurse practitioners, nurse practitioners, and volunteers provide state-of-the-art medical care to transplant patients.
  - **Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship**
    - Julio Barredo, M.D.
    - The University of Miami Health System's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program is led by highly trained and internationally recognized experts.**

**Research**

- **Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship**
  - LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, TN
  - Research Hospital and University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Cardiovascular Research Institute and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, as well as the American Heart Association and the National Cancer Institute. Our physician/scientists are committed to advancing basic research, clinical trials, and comprehensive clinical training as part of state-of-the-art scientific research.**

**Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program**

- **Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship**
  - Julio Barredo, M.D.
  - The University of Miami Health System's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program is led by highly trained and internationally recognized experts.

**Patient Care**

- **Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship**
  - A critical mission for our academic pediatric hematology-oncology programs in South Florida and are committed to patient care, research and education.

**Education**

- **Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program**
  - A critical mission for our academic pediatric hematology-oncology programs is to prepare future generations of specialists in the field. To that end, the hematology-oncology fellowship program provides state-of-the-art hematology and oncology clinical training as well as the opportunity for fellows to conduct basic translational research.